

He stumbled backward, clinging desperately against the smooth, slippery wall, and remained thus motionless one instant, watching.

Above his head the monster floated; it had apparently lost sight of him. Then, straight as a sword, it darted downward toward him. A moment later the man was scrambling blindly through the great, green wilderness of water, lost to all sense of direction, now caroming against a wall, now battling among the depths, while in imagination he felt those slimy coils encircle him and the sharp teeth close in his flesh.

He felt the airpipe that connected him with the world above straining and jerking.

The tank seemed to stretch out immeasurably, and walls sprang up and buffeted him where no walls should have been. His feet slipped on the smooth bottom, and he fell prostrate upon his face in a dead faint.

* * *

When he opened his eyes the tank was empty. He was lying on the bottom, propped up against a wall, his helmet had been removed, and he felt the taste of brandy in his throat. The chief of the staff knelt at his side, and the others were gathered around him with sheepish expressions upon their faces. The tank, which had appeared so large, was barely

"Too bad to scare you like that," said the chief. "Boys, this is the last time we play that trick on a newcomer."

"Trick?" gasped the diver, "Wasn't it a moray?"

The chief reached down to his side and took up a fishing rod. At the end of the line, impaled on the hook was a large angleworm.

"Put on your helmet, Hank," he said.

The man did so and pulled it off again with a cry of disgust.

"I'm blamed if you haven't fitted is with opera glasses," he muttered.

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NEW COURT TO GIVE THE POOR PEOPLE JUSTICE

Portland, Ore., April 15.—An initiative petition is being prepared here to place on the November ballot, a proposed law, to establish a poor man's court, where the plain people can appeal for justice without employing lawyers or without being hampered by the usual technical complications.

The proposed law will eliminate all pleadings known as complaints, demurrers, answers and replies, and make it possible for any citizen who has a bill to collect ranging from \$1 to \$500, to go to court with his bill, and have the justice issue a summons for the defendant to appear.

The case will then be set for hearing without further legal proceedings and settled upon its merits.

The new law permits the justice to assist the workingmen by interlocutory judgments. For example: If the defendant owes a bill, and cannot pay a lump sum of cash, the justice can enter an